

Proceedings of the Ohio State Conference Of The Brethren Church, Held at Pleasant Hill, June 7-9, 1898.

The Conference of the Brethren church met at Pleasant Hill, on June 7, 1898, J. M. Bowman, chairman.

FIRST SESSION, 7:30 P. M.

After devotional services conducted by A. D. Gnagey, the chair appointed the following committees: On enrollment, Isaac Ross, M. S. White and C. E. Staub; on program, A. D. Gnagey, J. L. Kimmel and Z. H. Copp, after which J. L. Kimmel delivered a sermon on, "What Is Man?"

SECOND SESSION, TUESDAY, 8:30 A. M.

Devotional services conducted by Isaac Ross. S. B. Grisso was elected Secretary of the Convention. The subject of aims in Sunday school work was opened by A. D. Gnagey; discussed by Copp, Keim, Kimmel and others.

The following resolution was presented by A. D. Gnagey. Resolved, That this Conference request all Brethren Sunday schools in the state of Ohio to take collections for missionary purposes regularly on the last Sunday in June and December of each year. Motion carried.

The subject, "What the Sunday School Should Accomplish" was presented by S. B. Grisso, followed by a discussion by Summers, Copp, sister Keim and others. Motion that the same be published in the Evangelist, carried. The subject, "Sunday School Supplies and Helps, was presented by H. M. Oberholtzer; discussion followed by Gnagey, Kimmel, Ross and others.

The chair appointed a committee on Sunday school reports as follows: Wm. Kiefer, C. E. Staub and H. M. Oberholtzer.

Song and adjournment.

THIRD SESSION, 1:30 P. M.

The subject, Preparation and Teaching of the Sunday School Lesson, was presented by M. S. White, followed by a discussion by Z. H. Copp and A. D. Gnagey. Brother Hall gave an interesting talk on the great power of sacred music.

Report of Home Missionary Board, presented by A. D. Gnagey as follows:

MONEYS RECEIVED.

1897.	December 14,	Mrs. M. J. Hegler,.....	\$ 5 00
	" 22,	Miamisburg church,.....	5 75
	" 27,	Bear Creek church,.....	5 00
	" 27,	Fairview church,.....	10 55
	" 27,	Miamisburg church,.....	1 00
	" 27,	D. J. Miller, (former treasurer)....	35 00
	" 27,	Bryan church,.....	9 06
	" 27,	Glenford church,.....	5 12
	" 27,	Minnie Fogle,.....	25
1898.	April 17,	Glenford church,.....	1 49
	May 7,	Mrs. M. O. Horne,.....	1 00
	May 15,	Glenford church,.....	1 50
		Gratis, J. Keim,.....	2 40
		North Georgetown,.....	2 50
		Total.....	\$85 62

EXPENDITURES.

J. M. Bowman,.....	\$10 00
Interest on the Troy church,.....	12 00
Zed. H. Copp,.....	10 00
Total.....	\$32 00

Balance on hand.....\$53 62

J. M. Bowman presented the subject, Home Missionary Work and Needs in the State, giving a summary of his work as State Evangelist, followed by a general discussion by Ross, Gnagey, Kimmel, etc. A motion that a committee of three be appointed to formulate a system or plan for successful missionary work for the coming ecclesiastical year. Carried. The chair appointed A. D. Gnagey, Z. H. Copp and J. L. Kimmel.

Song and adjournment.

FOURTH SESSION, WEDNESDAY, 7:30 P. M.

Devotions by H. M. Oberholtzer, followed by the subject, The Holy Spirit in the Work of the Church, by Z. H. Copp.

FIFTH SESSION, THURSDAY, 8:30 A. M.

Devotions by Josiah Keim. The chair appointed brethren Kiefer, Ross and Kiel to act as a committee on resolutions. The committee on missionary work brought in the following resolution: That the thanks of this Conference hereby be tendered J. M. Bowman as State Evangelist, and that the committee recommend the re-election of J. M. Bowman to continue his services under last Conference's instructions. Resolution adopted.

The following resolution was presented by A. D. Gnagey and adopted by the Conference: Contemplating the urgent needs of the Brethren church in the State of Ohio, and the numerous calls that come to us for the preaching of the blessed gospel, we are more than ever impressed with the truth of the Master's words, "The harvest is great and the laborers are few," therefore,

Resolved, That we earnestly request all churches in the state to pay into the treasury of the Home Mission Board the sum of no less than 25 cents per member, and that pastors and workers make every possible effort to raise said amount, and that delinquent churches be reported to the Conference.

The subject, How to Study the Bible for Greatest Profit, was ably presented by J. M. Bowman.

SIXTH SESSION, THURSDAY, 1:30 P. M.

Devotions by Z. H. Copp. The chair appointed the following committee on nominations: J. L. Kimmel, W. A. Welty and H. M. Oberholtzer. It was moved and carried that the chairman, vice chairman and secretary be elected at once by ballot. The election resulted as follows: J. L. Kimmel, chairman; J. M. Bowman, vice chairman; S. B. Grisso, secretary. By vote of the Conference the Executive Committee was empowered to locate the Conference for 1899. J. L. Kimmel read a paper on, Relation of Pastor and People. The subject was ably presented. By request of A. D. Gnager the paper was submitted for publication.

Resolution: That this Conference take up the matter of a more perfect organization of the Brethren church in Ohio, a system that will bring about or that will look toward the organic union and the spiritual unification of the several congregations in the state; that will provide more efficiently for churches without pastors and for pastors without charges, that will inaugurate systematic and aggressive missionary work, that will establish a more permanent relation between pastor and people, give a higher conception of the responsibility of such relations, protect the church from the ordination of men to the ministry who do not possess the scriptural qualifications, and in general protect our pastors and people from false teachers. Resolution adopted.

Moved and adopted that there be a committee of five appointed to take into consideration the above resolution and report at the next Conference. The subject of S. S. C. E. work was presented by sister Sarah Keim, giving a summary of the work during the year.

SEVENTH SESSION, THURSDAY, 8 P. M.

The committee on nominations reported. Trustees of Ashland University, J. L. Kimmel, A. D. Gnagey, F. L. Garber. Member of State Missionary Board, Joseph Findley. Conference Treasurer, Dr. E. J. Worst. Executive committee, A. D. Gnagey, Z. H. Copp, W. A. Welty. Committee on church government, A. D. Gnagey, J. A. Miller, J. L. Kimmel, Josiah Keim, Isaac Ross. Committee on enrollment made their final report: Ministerial delegates, 15; lay, 12; number of churches represented, 17.

The subject, Young People's Work, was presented by W. A. Welty, and discussed by Kimmel, Grisso, etc.

The following resolution was presented and adopted: That it is the sense of this Conference that the Young People's Societies, the Sunday school and the S. S. C. E. shall each have at least one session devoted to their work, on the regular program in our next State Conference. Song and adjournment.

S. B. GRISSO, Secretary.